



Delivering value based healthcare

Measuring outcomes that matter to patients:

Improving catheter care to help people lead more independent lives and reduce hospital admissions.



The challenge

Improving catheter care and reducing complications to help people lead more independent lives.

- To improve catheter care and reduce the frequency of urinary catheterisation which can lead to catheter-associated urinary-tract infections (CAUTI)
- CAUTI is one of the most common hospital acquired infections and can lead to complications such as haemorrhage, blockage, trauma and, particularly for older people, delirium, falls, and sepsis
- This can result in reduced independence and emergency admission to hospital, and in the worst cases death.

Our intervention

Creating a catheter passport to support independent living and sharing of catheter care plans.

- We developed a catheter safety programme, “No Catheter, No CAUTI”, and worked collaboratively to spread this to our partners in south London
- We provided a safety bundle to reduce unnecessary use of catheters and improve discharge of patients with catheters using a catheter passport– a document that helps to support independent living and allows the sharing of catheter care plans between health and social care professionals
- The catheter passport was developed by staff at King’s College Hospital, Guy’s and St Thomas’, primary care colleagues, and was co-produced with patients supported by AgeUK.

Our impact

Data has shown a 30% reduction in CAUTIs in our hospitals.

- Our collaborative approach means that we are able to reach not just hospitals and GP practices, but care homes and community settings as well
- Since our work to improve catheter care started, data has shown a 30% reduction in CAUTIs in our hospitals
- We hope that our work will continue to support the safe and appropriate use of catheters, not just across south London, but nationally.